

MORE ABOUT VICTORIA GOVERNMENT PUNCTURES

by Bryan Toop.

I have just read the latest Bulletin (No. 226) and was interested in the letter by Jon Johnson, and send herewith a few added notes concerning the V.G. perfins.

The first V.G. puncturing machine was produced in 1933 and consisted of a head with 12 dies. The dies were hand made, so each was slightly different from the others in the head. All had a V consisting of nine holes, and a G consisting of ten holes.

This head was much overworked and had to be replaced in three years. The new head again had 12 dies, but in this, the third, sixth, and twelfth dies each had a G with eleven holes. Other than these, the other dies had the nine hole V, and the ten hole G. Again, all the dies were hand made individually, so again all dies were slightly different from each other, and all were different from those in the first head.

It has now become the practice to call the V.G. with the ten hole G, TYPE I, and the V.G. with the eleven hole G, TYPE II. It is accepted that the ten hole G may have arisen from either of the first two heads. The eleven hole G has to have arisen from the second head. It is possible to differentiate each V.G. die from both heads but this is painstaking and time consuming, and of little value.

I enclose a booklet on V.G. punctures which you may like to list in your bulletin and may like to add to your library. It is still available at \$6.00 each post-free. An update of the latest findings of V.G. perfins is also available on request.

It is hoped to issue a fourth edition of this booklet in 1987, and to include a scarcity rating of each stamp and V.G. position.

(Bryan Toop's Booklet, "Victorian Government Punctures", has been added to the Society's Library. Ed.)
